Appl. No.: 10/617,978 Amdt. dated March 10, 2006 Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2006

## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the Abstract, beginning on page 84, line 5 with the following amended abstract:

The present invention provides compositions and methods for orally active <u>Androctomus</u> <u>amoreuxi</u> pesticidal polypeptides. Compositions include novel nucleotide sequences encoding <u>Androctonus amoreuxi</u> pesticidal polypeptides, and biologically active variants thereof. Further provided are methods for modulating the pesticide resistance of plants using the sequences disclosed herein. One method comprises stably transforming into the genome of a plant cell a nucleotide sequence of the present invention operably linked to a heterologous promoter and regenerating a stably transformed plant that expresses the nucleotide sequence. An additional method comprises incorporating a nucleotide sequence of the present invention operably linked to a heterologous promoter into a microorganism and applying said microorganism to the environment of a plant.

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Applicants have now submitted the amendments to the Abstract on a separate page, which brings the Amendment document filed Lanuary 5, 2006 into compliance.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

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Nara C Martinez

3/10/06

RTA01/2200379v1